

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner
 US Department of Commerce
 United States Patent and Trademark
 Office, PCT
 2011 South Clark Place Room
 CP2/5C24
 Arlington, VA 22202
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
 in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

19 February 2001 (19.02.01)

International application No.

PCT/EP00/05841

Applicant's or agent's file reference

BT/B45187

International filing date (day/month/year)

23 June 2000 (23.06.00)

Priority date (day/month/year)

29 June 1999 (29.06.99)

Applicant

COHEN, Joseph et al

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:



in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

13 December 2000 (13.12.00)



in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO
 34, chemin des Colombettes
 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

F. Baechler

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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REC'D 08 OCT 2001

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

14

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference MJWD/FR/B45187 | | See Notification of Transmittal of International - Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/EP00/05841 | | International filing date (day/month/year) 23/06/2000 | Priority date (day/month/year) 29/06/1999 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A61K39/39 | | | |
| Applicant SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOGICALS S.A. et al. | | | |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.


2. This REPORT consists of a total of **10** sheets, including this cover sheet.

- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☒ Priority
- III ☒ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☒ Certain documents cited
- VII ☒ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☒ Certain observations on the international application

| | |
|---|--|
| Date of submission of the demand 13/12/2000 | Date of completion of this report 02.10.2001 |
| Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465 | Authorized officer Leber, T Telephone No. +49 89 2399 7195 |



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/05841

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, pages:

1-15 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-12 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/4-4/4 as originally filed

Sequence listing part of the description, pages:

1-2, filed with the letter of 15.09.2000

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☒ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☒ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☒ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☒ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/05841

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

II. Priority

1. ☐ This report has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the failure to furnish within the prescribed time limit the requested:

- ☐ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed.
- ☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed.

2. ☐ This report has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid.

Thus for the purposes of this report, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:
see separate sheet

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

- ☐ the entire international application.
- ☒ claims Nos. 1-12(partly).

because:

- ☒ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. 9,12 relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):
see separate sheet

- ☒ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. 1-12(partly) are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):
see separate sheet

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/05841

☒ the claims, or said claims Nos. 1-12(partly) are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

☐ no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. .

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------|--------|--------------|
| Novelty (N) | Yes: | Claims | 1-12(partly) |
| | No: | Claims | |
| Inventive step (IS) | Yes: | Claims | |
| | No: | Claims | 1-12(partly) |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Yes: | Claims | 1-12(partly) |
| | No: | Claims | |

2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet

VI. Certain documents cited

1. Certain published documents (Rule 70.10)

and / or

2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 70.9)

see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:
see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:
see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP00/05841

Re Item I

Basis of the opinion

1. Sequence listing pages 1-2 filed with the letter of 15.09.2000 do not form part of the application (Rule 13^{ter}.1(f) PCT).

Re Item II

Priority

1. Parts of the present patent application lack priority. This concerns claim 4 as the priority document does not disclose "3 de-O-acylated monophosphoryl lipid A", claim 8 as there is no basis for the sequences named "WD1004", "WD1005" and "WD1006" in the priority document and claim 12 as there is no basis for administering the CpG oligonucleotide followed by a malaria antigen in the priority document. The related sections in the description are missing in the priority document (e.g. page 6, line 16 - page 7, line 10; page 7, line 28 - page 8, line 16; page 9, line 2-5). The following P-documents are therefore relevant for the said aspects of the application.
 - a: WO 00 23105 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOG ;GARCON NATHALIE (BE)) 27 April 2000 (2000-04-27)
 - b: JONES T R ET AL: 'Synthetic oligodeoxynucleotides containing CpG motifs enhance immunogenicity of a peptide malaria vaccine in Aotus monkeys' VACCINE,GB,BUTTERWORTH SCIENTIFIC. GUILDFORD, vol. 17, no. 23-24, 6 August 1999 (1999-08-06), pages 3065-3071, XP004173617 ISSN: 0264-410X

Re Item III

Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. Claim 1 relates to a vaccine which encompasses a "malaria antigen" and an "immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide". Both expressions lack clarity and

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP00/05841

support by the description to such an extent that a meaningful opinion can not be formed (Art 34(4)(a)(ii) PCT). The said objections also affect claims 2-12. In its present form, the product of claim 1 is defined by the result to be achieved ("antigen", "immunostimulatory") without providing technical features to define the intended scope of the invention.

2. In view of the objections raised above, examination of the claims will be restricted to the combination of the malaria antigens RTS, RTS* and TRAP as referred to in claim 2 and defined in the description and the sequences defined in claim 8 with the limitation that sequence WD1005 will not be considered. This sequence does not include all feature of the independent claim (claim 1) to which claim 8 refers, as a CpG dinucleotide is not present (Guidelines Section IV, III-3.4) and may, if maintained in the claim, result in an objection to lack of unity (Rule 13 PCT).
3. Claims 9 and 12 relate to subject-matter considered by this Authority to be covered by the provisions of Rule 67.1(iv) PCT. Consequently, no opinion will be formulated with respect to the industrial applicability of the subject-matter of these claims (Article 34(4)(a)(i) PCT).

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Basis for the assessment of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1.1 Reference is made to the following document/s/:

- D1: WO 96 02555 A (UNIV IOWA RES FOUND) 1 February 1996 (1996-02-01) cited in the application
- D2: WO 98 40100 A (DAVIS HEATHER L ;OTTAWA CIVIC LOEB RESEARCH INS (CA); QIAGEN GMBH) 17 September 1998 (1998-09-17)
- D3: WO 98 05355 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOG ;COHEN JOSEPH (BE)) 12 February 1998 (1998-02-12) cited in the application

- D4: WO 99 11241 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOG ;GARCON NATHALIE (BE); MOMIN PATRICIA MA) 11 March 1999 (1999-03-11)
- D5: WO 00 23105 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOG ;GARCON NATHALIE (BE)) 27 April 2000 (2000-04-27)
- D6: JONES T R ET AL: 'Synthetic oligodeoxynucleotides containing CpG motifs enhance immunogenicity of a peptide malaria vaccine in Aotus monkeys' VACCINE,GB,BUTTERWORTH SCIENTIFIC. GUILDFORD, vol. 17, no. 23-24, 6 August 1999 (1999-08-06), pages 3065-3071, XP004173617 ISSN: 0264-410X

2. Novelty

- 2.1 ~~None of the~~ documents cited in the ISR disclose the combination of the CpG sequences WD1001-WD1004, WD1006, WD1007 and a malaria antigen RTS, RTS* or TRAP. Therefore, claims 1-12 appear to be novel (Art 33(2) PCT). The same applies to those aspects of the present application which have no valid priority.

3. Inventive step


- 3.1 Document D1 discloses the use of unmethylated CpG dinucleotides because of their ability to stimulate an immune response (D1, Abstract). The CpG oligonucleotides have a the basic structure of $X_1X_2CGX_3X_4$ (D1, page 7, line 16) and may encompass phosphorothioate bonds, which stabilise the molecule (page 7, lines 21-27). With the exception of WD1005 (see Item III above), each of the sequences referred to in claim 8 are specific examples of the basic structure disclosed in this document. D1, further discloses the use of CpG oligonucleotides as a vaccine adjuvant (D1, page 7, line 38) to boost the subjects immune response whereby the CpG oligonucleotide may be administered in conjunction with the vaccine or slightly before the vaccine (D1, page 21, lines 18-21).
- 3.2 Document D2 discloses that nucleic acids containing at least one unmethylated CpG dinucleotide affect the immune response in a subject (D2, Abstract). The CpG oligonucleotide may be 8-30 bases in size and may be stabilised through backbone modifications such as phosphorothioate bonds (D2, page 8, line 20;

page 9, lines 5-16). In particular, D2 discloses the sequence of WD1001 (D2, page 10, line 26, SEQ ID NO:3). D2 further discloses the use of CpG oligonucleotides as adjuvant, whereby the vaccine may be an antigenic polypeptide such as the hepatitis B virus surface antigen (D2, claim 15; page 19, lines 1-4). This results in a strong humoral and cellular immune response which exceeds that induced by the vaccine or the CpG oligonucleotide alone. This was further improved by the addition of aluminium ions ("alum") as adjuvant (D2, page 19, lines 4-22; page 20, lines 6-15).

3.3 Document D3 discloses a vaccine composition for the prevention or treatment of malaria (D3, Abstract). In particular D3 discloses the antigens RTS (page 2, line 25 et seq.) and TRAP (page 5, line 21). D3 further discloses the use of adjuvants such as 3 de -O-acylated monophosphoryl lipid A (D3, page 4, line 21) and saponin derived substances (page 4, lines 26-29).

3.4 Document D4 discloses a vaccine composition encompassing Malaria antigens such as RTS, RTS,S and TRAP and adjuvants (D4, page 7, lines 17-29). The adjuvants may be a metabolisable oil such as 3 De-O-acylated monophosphoryl lipid A in combination with a saponin (D4, page 2, lines 9-28). Moreover, D4 discloses that the vaccine may be adsorbed to $Al(OH)_3$ as adjuvant (D4, page 13, lines 16-21). Finally, D4 discloses that the vaccine may comprise further antigens such as human, bacterial or viral nucleic acid (D4, page 11, lines 21-26).

3.5 The examined part of claim 1 differs from closest prior art documents D3/D4 in that the vaccine formulation encompasses the presence of a CpG oligonucleotide as defined in claim 8. The technical problem is therefore to provide an improved vaccine formulation. The solution referred to in claim 1 is the combination of a known malaria antigen with a CpG oligonucleotide.



A person skilled in the art challenged with the problem to improve the antigenic ability of an antigen would obviously consider to modify the adjuvant. As documents D1 and D2 belong to the closely related prior art, the skilled person would turn to adjuvants with a proven adjuvant activity such as the CpG oligonucleotides disclosed in D1 and D2 (see 3.1 and 3.2 above). Thus, claim 1 lacks an inventive step (Art 33(3) PCT). This opinion is not affected by the fact that the precise sequences as disclosed in claim 8 are not disclosed in D1 or D2

as no surprising effect appears to be associated with the said oligonucleotides

- 3.6 Claims 2-8 appear not to encompass features which in combination with the features of claim 1 appear to fulfil the requirements of Art 33(3) PCT for inventive step.
- 3.7 The independent claims 9-12 lack an inventive step for the same reasons as outlined in 3.5 above.
- 3.8 Document D5 discloses vaccines formulations (D5, page 7, lines 1-10) encompassing a metallic salt (e.g. AlPO_4 , AlOH_3 ; D5, page 17, Table 1), an immuno-stimulant (e.g. CpG oligonucleotides (D5, page 6, lines 28-32); a saponin derivate (D5, page 6, lines 18-27), 3 De-O-acylated monophosphoryl lipid A (D5, page 6, lines 1-13) and an antigen such as RTS,S and TRAP (D5, page 12, line 13). Similarly, document D6 discloses the vaccines combining CpG containing oligonucleotides and a synthetic peptide from the circumsporozoite protein of *Plasmodium falciparum* (D6, Abstract).
Thus an inventive step (Art 33(3) PCT) can not be acknowledged for claims 1-12 insofar as they do not have a valid claim to priority.

4. Industrial applicability

- 4.1 The subject-matter disclosed in the claims 1-8, 11 of the present application appears to be industrially applicable (Art 33(4) PCT).
- 4.2 For the assessment of the present claims 9, 10 and 12 on the question whether they are industrially applicable, no unified criteria exist in the PCT Contracting States. The patentability can also be dependent upon the formulation of the claims. The EPO, for example, does not recognize as industrially applicable the subject-matter of claims to the use of a compound in medical treatment, but may allow, however, claims to a known compound for first use in medical treatment and the use of such a compound for the manufacture of a medicament for a new medical treatment.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP00/05841

Re Item VI

Certain documents cited

1. The following documents have an earlier priority and filing date than the present application and their subject matter may therefore be of relevance for the examination of the present application in its regional or national phase.

WO 00 62800 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOG ;FRIEDE MARTIN (BE);
GARCON NATHALIE (BE) 26 October 2000 (2000-10-26)

Re Item VII

Certain defects in the international application

1. To meet the requirements of Art 5 and Rule 5 PCT, the documents D1-D4 should be identified in the description and the relevant background art disclosed therein should be briefly discussed if the subject-matter for which these documents are relevant prior art remains in the claims.

Re Item VIII

Certain observations on the international application

1. Claim 2 lacks clarity (Art 6 PCT) as the meaning of RTS, RTS* and TRAP appear to be internal designations unknown to the person skilled in the art.
2. The meaning of "immunological equivalent derivatives" in claims 2 and 3 is unclear and appears to lack support by the description (Art 6 PCT).
3. The terms "CpG dinucleotides" (claim 5) and "CpG oligonucleotide" (claims 6 and 7) lack clarity and support by the description (Art 6 PCT).
4. Claims 4-6, 8 and 10 refer to other claims as "claimed herein". This results in a lack of clarity (Art 6 PCT) as these claims refer to both product and method claims.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference BT/B45187 | FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. | |
| International application No. PCT/EP 00/ 05841 | International filing date (day/month/year) 23/06/2000 | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 29/06/1999 |
| Applicant SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOGICALS S.A. | | |

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.
☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :
- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☒ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☒ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☒ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☒ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

- ☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- ☒ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

USE OF CPG AS AN ADJUVANT FOR MALARIA VACCINE

5. With regard to the abstract,

- ☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- ☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

- ☐ as suggested by the applicant.
- ☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- ☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☒ None of the figures.

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
4 January 2001 (04.01.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/00231-A2

(51) International Patent Classification: A61K 39/00

(74) Agent: TYRRELL, Arthur, William, Russell; SmithKline Beecham, Corporate Intellectual Property, Two New Horizons Court, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9EP (GB).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/05841

(22) International Filing Date: 23 June 2000 (23.06.2000)

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

9915204.3

29 June 1999 (29.06.1999)

GB

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*):
SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOGICALS S.A.
[BE/BE]; Rue de L'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): COHEN, Joseph [US/BE]; SmithKline Beecham Biologicals S.A., Rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE). GARCON, Nathalie [FR/BE]; SmithKline Beecham Biologicals S.A., Rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE). VOSS, Gerald [DE/BE]; SmithKline Beecham Biologicals S.A., Rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE).

Published:

— Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: VACCINES

(57) Abstract: A vaccine formulation for the prevention or amelioration of plasmodium infection in humans is provided. The vaccine comprises a malaria antigen, especially a protein which comprises a portion of the CS protein of *P. falciparum* fused in frame via a linear linker to the N-terminal of HBsAg, and an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide. Methods for making the vaccine formulation of the invention are described. Patients may also be treated by pre-administration of the CpG oligonucleotide prior to administration of the malaria antigen.

WO 01/00231 A2

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/05841

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61K39/39 A61P33/06 //(A61K39/39,39:005)

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

BIOSIS, MEDLINE, SCISEARCH, EMBASE, CHEM ABS Data, WPI Data, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | WO 98 05355 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOG ;COHEN JOSEPH (BE)) 12 February 1998 (1998-02-12) cited in the application the whole document | 1-12 |
| Y | WO 99 11241 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOG ;GARCON NATHALIE (BE); MOMIN PATRICIA MA) 11 March 1999 (1999-03-11) the whole document | 1-12 |
| Y | WO 96 02555 A (UNIV IOWA RES FOUND) 1 February 1996 (1996-02-01) cited in the application abstract claims 1,5,10,18 | 1-12 |

-/--

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

19 January 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/01/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA
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Authorized officer

Niemann, F

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/05841

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| A | WO 98 40100 A (DAVIS HEATHER L ;OTTAWA CIVIC LOEB RESEARCH INS (CA); QIAGEN GMBH) 17 September 1998 (1998-09-17) abstract; claim 16 | 8 |
| A | WO 98 37919 A (UNIV IOWA RES FOUND) 3 September 1998 (1998-09-03) abstract page 27, line 20 | 8 |
| P,X | WO 00 23105 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM BIOLOG ;GARCON NATHALIE (BE)) 27 April 2000 (2000-04-27) abstract; claims 1-26 | 1-7,9-12 |
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